

Eid al-Fitr Sermon Delivered By Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad - Khalifatul Masih IV, On 19th January 1999 at Islamabad, Tilford - United Kingdom

He it is Who accepts repentance from His servants and forgives sins and He knows what you do.

He receives those who believe and do good deeds and gives them more out of His Grace; and as for the disbelievers they will have a severe punishment.

The Holy Quran. Al Shura [The Consultation]: 26, 27.

Today is the day of Eid: I offer Eid greetings to the Muslims of the whole world who are also true Muslims before Allah, also to those Muslims who consider themselves to be true Muslims but are not yet true Muslims before Allah. I offer greetings with the prayer that may God bring the time before their demise when they are also true Muslims before Allah. For some this is an Eid for their having received Divine Communion with the Omnipotent during Ramadan and there are also some others who have learned lessons from the blessed [month of] Ramadan. This Eid is a gift for them from Allah for they have endeavoured to spend the rest of the year preparing for the blessed [month of] Ramadan. I offer greetings to all whose efforts for Eid were accepted and those whose efforts for Eid are yet to be accepted:

Jabir b.in Abdullah reported: I observed prayer with the Messenger of Allah ﷺ on the day of Eid. He commenced with prayer before the sermon without Azan or Iqama. He then stood up leaning on Bilal, and he commanded God-awareness to people, he exhorted obedience to Him and he preached to the people and admonished them. He then walked on till he came to the women and preached to them and admonished them, asking them to give alms, for most of them are the fuel for Hell. A woman having a dark spot on the cheek stood up and said 'Why is it so, Messenger of Allah?' He said 'For you grumble often and show ingratitude to your spouse', then they began to give alms out of their ornaments such as their earrings and rings which they threw onto the cloth of Bilal.¹

This is 1999. I will repeat the things of 1899 from the writings and statements of His Holiness the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) from a hundred years ago and it is indeed from their blessing that our present Eid and remaining Eids would be made. These statements advise the Jamat to be God-aware and are at pain as to how the Jamat can attain God-consciousness and cleanliness. Whilst praying in Ramadan this prayer also sprang from my heart spontaneously that O Allah! What shall I do? How should I express my desire so that my own children and my children spread out all over the world would understand the God-awareness about which the Promised Messiah was repeatedly given the revelation 'Ye People! Be righteous and tread the narrow paths of righteousness and God will be with you.'² There are at least a hundred thousand in number of Ahmadi men and women who have become the fulfilment of this prayer of His Holiness the Promised Messiah.

Ramadan teaches forbearance and gratitude.

What is our teaching? Only to convey the pure guidance from Allah and the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). If a person endorses a bond with me and

¹ Muslim, Ibn al-Hajjaj, *Sahih Muslim*.

² 22nd June 1899. *Mafuzat: i*. (Islam International Publications Ltd, 2016). 276.

does not wish to accept it then why does he enter our Jamat? Such examples are a cause for others to stumble and to accuse that they are such people who do not even respect the mother and the father.

Verily verily I say to you that those disregarding of the mother and the father shall never see the visage of good and bounty.³

Train the children in a way that they would not grow up to be disregarding of the mother and the father. If one does not give lessons of obedience, service and love of the mother and the father right from childhood then ills would take hold of them from the inside. One who fulfils the right of the mother and the father would then also fulfil the right of Muhammad the Messenger of Allah and one who is not brought up thus would then also be unable to take the next step.

The Eid of the world is affiliated with the success of the Jamat. Otherwise there is so much grief spread out across the world that unless Almighty God enables the Jamat to create the revolution which is the revolution of Muhammad the Chosen One ﷺ until that time the world cannot partake of the true Eid.

I had recommended celebrating your Eid by organising the Eid of the poor. The true joy of Eid would only be experienced when you join in the sorrow and pain of the poor. I am extremely happy that the Jamat has acted upon this most excellently. With advice from the headquarters they sent gifts directly or by an alternative method. Hundreds of thousands of the poor have benefited from this. England has been able to distribute £93300 worth of gifts. Germany is second in Number - Followed by Canada and America. Then in addition to this there are all the Ahmadi Jamats throughout Pakistan that are making efforts in this regard. There are certainly a hundred thousand of such poor people who with the grace of Allah the Almighty have received the blessing of this Eid through the Ahmadiyya Community.

In the end I would mention the general gifts sent to the families of the martyrs and the prisoners in the way of God sent by myself in representation of the Jamats of the whole world. I also appeal for prayers for them that may God make this year the final year of their tribulation and the final year in which all the prayers of their previous period of tribulation are fulfilled. May Allah make us grateful to Him even in tribulation and when His pleasure showers down on us from high after the tribulation may we receive it like the Holy Prophet would receive the first drop of rain upon his tongue.

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³ Ahmad, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam. 21st April 1899. *Malfuzat*: i. 270.